

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 015004
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:TH

APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB

S/S:MR. SHANKLE

NEA:ALATHERTONJR.

-----221731Z 012897 /44

O 221714Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 015004

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, IS, LE

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON

REF: AMMAN 379

1. WE APPRECIATE THE PROBLEM OF SOUTHERN LEBANON THAT KAMAL ASAD DESCRIBED IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR PICKERING. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS OVER A PERIOD OF TIME WITH THE ISRAELIS AND MAY WISH TO BRING IT UP WITH THEM AGAIN. OUR PRESENT READING, HOWEVER, IS THAT ISRAEL IS VERY SENSITIVE ON THE ISSUE OF SYRIAN TROOPS APPROACHING ANY CLOSER TO THE ISRAELI-LEBANESE BORDER AND THAT WE COULD NOT EXPECT TO PERSUADE THE ISRAELIS TO REMAIN QUIESCENT IF SUCH MOVEMENT SHOULD OCCUR. WE WANT THERE TO BE NO MISTAKE IN THE MINDS OF THE LEBANESE ON THIS

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SCORE.

2. PLEASE CONVEY TO ASAD, THEREFORE, BOTH THROUGH THE LEBANESE AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN AND DIRECTLY IN BEIRUT THE ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE PROBLEM HE HAS DESCRIBED BUT THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO SAY, AS OF NOW, THAT ANY FURTHER MOVEMENT OF ARAB SECURITY FORCE ELEMENTS TOWARD

THE SOUTH WOULD ENTAIL A SERIOUS RISK OF ISRAELI RESPONSE.
WE CERTAINLY COULD NOT GIVE ANY ASSURANCE THAT THIS WOULD

NOT OCCUR. WHAT WE HAVE TOLD SARKIS (PARA. 6 REFTEL)
THEREFORE STILL HOLDS.
HABIB

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 22-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770127/aaaaaxav.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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TAGS: PFOR, US, IS, LE, (ASSAD, KAMAL)
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